From: Shaun Bava
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am very disappointed in the MS settlement and feel that if this settlement is accepted, the american people are being cheated and the government has wasted many american tax dollars. Microsoft is one of the shiftiest companies there is, and with this settlement MS has plenty of room to maneuver around the proposed restrictions. With this settlement the US government is making the statement that criminal behavior is acceptable as long as you have a big wallet to back it up. What about those affected by MSes monopoly, or the customers forced to buy their products, or the inflated costs of MS Office. It is baffling that it has taken this long for an investigation, look at DR-DOS, the battle with apple, the failure of NeXT's OpenStep Mach against a shoddy product called Windows 3.0, and the current battle MS is waging against open source and the control of the internet. MS should be forced to pay it's competitors for it misgivings and should be forced to drop the OEM deal where every pc comes with windows. Lets look back at NeXT, great product but MS would not make software for it and it was locked out of OEM licensing by the MS restrictive OEM license. Then with the release of NT and Windows 95 MS ripped of the interface and stole many of their innovative ideas from NeXT. Next we have Netscape, a company despite being the established player in internet software MS gave their stuff away which forced netscape to follow but since this was netscapes only business they could not afford to compete and ultimately fell behind and was forced out of business. Or recently Be, a company with a promising OS. How many more people must lose their jobs and companies be destroyed before MS is stopped. Everyday MS extends the monopoly further by moving into new fields but we let them continue. I feel like MS should get their punishment and under the settlement little is addressed. While unprofessional I understand Judge Jackson's comments and feel that he was impartial, but after hearing years of testimony and the things MS has done with such arrogance he was disgusted and obviously wanted to nail microsoft for the terrible things they have done. The way this case is now being handled makes me upset as an american and represents exactly what is wrong with the US today. The US and it's success was based on the hard work and ingenuity of the American people but MS contrary to the American way has built a monopoly on shoddy products, stolen ideas, monopolistic force, and arrogance. As Americans we should have the best not what someone forces us to use.